



CNCI NEWS BULLETIN

The Ceylon National Chamber of Industries

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PAGE 01: CNCI Achiever Awards - 2015 Application at Initial Evaluation

PAGE 02 /03: Green Management

PAGE 04: Economic Performance

PAGE 05 : Why is ethics important to business?

PAGE 06: Members Success Story

PAGE 07 : -Importance of team work at work

PAGE 08 : EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES/ SEMINAR / EXHIBITIONS

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CNCI Achiever Awards – 2015 Applications at Initial Evaluation



The Achiever Awards Applications were closed on 10th July 2015 and all the applications received were soon handed over to the auditors for checking and verifying. Thereafter the internal judging process was started by a panel consisting of Engineers, Chartered Accountants, Senior Professionals in International Trade and Management and Administrative consultants. The Judging Panel was headed by Mr. Tissa Seneviratne – Deputy Chairman of the Ceylon National Chamber of industries – CNCI, who is also a senior engineer.

The CNCI is the first chamber in the country to design an awards competition of this nature exclusively for the industrial sector to recognize their excellence achieved. The importance of encouraging the industrial sector in the country has been well understood by the CNCI, who perceive that the sustaining economic growth into the future will require approaches to stimulate growth in productivity and economic diversification driven by technology, innovation, and new market development both domestically and internationally.

In order to update the Sri Lankan Industrialists both in manufacturing and service sectors to fit into the current trends and demands, the CNCI has designed the “Achiever Award” Application covering the most important areas in a business, which include: Value Addition, Productivity, Corporate Plan, Statutory Responsibilities, Social responsibilities, Environmental Responsibilities, Research and Development Quality Assurance and Occupational Health and Safety among several others.

The photographs depict the interviewing and evaluation process being conducted by the Panel of Internal judges At the chamber Auditorium.



Green Management

Taking Steps Towards a Greener Brand

Environmental issues are a touchy subject. They continue to polarize opinion, particularly when it comes to government policy and the long-term view.

Regardless of your personal views on the subject, however, it's clear that green initiatives are fundamentally important for some consumers. In fact, companies' environmental efforts (or lack of them) are increasingly being seen as "deal breakers" for many choice-rich, time-poor customers.

Big names such as Microsoft® and Wal-Mart® are now working on major green initiatives such as harnessing renewable energy, and this both differentiates them and enhances the power of their brands.

Likewise, green issues appeal to employees. Most people want to be part of "something good," and this includes being green. According to one report, companies that have good green credentials have higher staff morale, see less staff turnover, and can attract and retain top talent more easily.

In this article, we'll outline examples of successful green management – including highlighting companies that have saved costs – and show how small steps can positively impact your organization.

Seven Steps to a Greener Office

So, what can you do to "green" your office? Start by considering the steps below.

1. Watch Power Use

Replace regular bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs) or light-emitting diode bulbs (LEDs). CFLs use 70 percent less energy than regular incandescent bulbs, emit 75 percent less heat, and last 10 times longer. LEDs use an average of 75 percent less energy and last 35 to 50 times longer than incandescent bulbs.

Encourage team members to turn off lights when they aren't using them. Consider installing motion sensors in shared areas such as bathrooms, break rooms, and conference rooms. These sensors automatically turn lights off when the space is empty.

Electronic devices such as computers and printers continue to use energy even when they're turned off. This "phantom power" consumption can add 10 percent or more to your utility bill, so encourage your team members to use a power strip for their electronics, and to switch it off when they're done for the day. You can also invest in "smart" power strips, which stop power consumption completely when you turn the machine off. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, turning electronic equipment off entirely can save \$50 to \$150 each year, for each machine.

Consider switching to laptops when it's time for an upgrade. On average, laptops use 80 percent less energy than desktop computers. Responsibly recycle your old computers and printers with a certified electronics recycler.

Finally, make use of natural light to save power. If practical, rearrange workspaces to take advantage of light from windows, and turn off overhead lights. This is also an important part of creating a healthy workplace. Add to My Personal Learning Plan.

2. Think Twice Before Purchasing

Before you buy new office equipment, ask yourself whether you really need what you're planning to buy. And is there a greener option?

For example, recycled stationery, or items with little or no packaging, cause less damage to the environment. "Gently used" furniture has also become common in offices around the world – a quick search online will yield plenty of suppliers.

3. Use Reusable Products

If your office uses disposable cups, plates and eating utensils in the break room, look for dishware that you can wash and reuse. Switch to plant-based, biodegradable dish soap, and use cloth drying towels or energy-saving hand-dryers instead of paper towels in bathrooms.

4. Plant Trees

Where it's practical, you can save energy and improve the appearance of your work environment by planting trees around your building. For example, large deciduous trees planted on the sides of a building that receive afternoon sun (the west and southwest sides of your building if you're in the northern hemisphere; the west and northwest if you're in the southern hemisphere) can help reduce your air conditioning costs by up to 35 percent. You can also reduce costs and improve energy efficiency by shading your air conditioning unit from hot summer sun.

Trees also help block cold winter winds. If you can, plant coniferous trees (for the most benefit, plant on the northern side if you're in the northern hemisphere, and the south if you're in the southern hemisphere). This can reduce winter heating costs by up to 30 percent.

5. Telecommute

Allow team members to work from home one or more days each week. This can yield great benefits for both your organization and the environment.

First, people who work from home don't waste time sitting in traffic. As well as saving time, this saves gasoline and prevents carbon emissions. (If it makes sense, you can also save money and energy if you shut the office down on telecommuting days.)

If telecommuting isn't an option at your organization, create a carpool information board or intranet page to connect people who use similar routes to work. Encourage team members to walk, bike or take public transportation to the office, and incentivize green travel: For example, you could reward car-poolers with reserved parking. Make it easy for people to start using green transport options by posting transit schedules, bike routes, and details of incentive programs in easily accessible spots.

6. Limit Business Travel

Technology has made it possible for organizations to limit business travel without this having a knock-on effect on efficiency. Of course, face-to-face meetings are important when you're establishing a relationship with a new client, or when you're getting a new location up and running; however, you may be able to hold more established events such as training, catch-ups and conferences virtually. These virtual events are often cost-effective and have a much lower impact on the environment. (There are now numerous software applications available to support virtual events.)

Cont: Page 5



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Economic Performance

ECONOMIC INDICATORS - LATEST AVAILABLE

Category	May 2015 US \$ Mn	May 2014 US \$ Mn	Growth (%) US \$ Mn
Exports	882.5	883.5	(0.1)
Industrial Products	661.3	640.0	3.3
Imports	1585.5	1353.2	17.2
Deficit in Trade A/C	(702.9)	(469.7)	49.7
Workers' Remittances	537.7	557.5	(3.5)
Earnings from Tourism	180.7	143.3(b)	26.1

EXCHANGE RATES - 2015.07.30

Daily Exchange Rates		
Currency	Buying Rate (Rs.)	Selling Rate (Rs.)
Dollar (USA)	132.01	135.21
Pound (UK)	205.27	211.73
Euro (EU)	143.95	149.16
Franc (Switzerland)	135.32	140.47
Dollar (Canada)	101.24	105.09
Dollar (Australia)	95.66	99.78
Dollar (Singapore)	95.94	99.32
Yen (Japan)	1.0581	1.0956

Why is ethics are important to business?

Ethics concern an individual's moral judgments' about right and wrong. Decisions taken within an organization may be made by individuals or groups, but whoever makes them will be influenced by the culture of the company. The decision to behave ethically is a moral one; employees must decide what they think is the right course of action. This may involve rejecting the route that would lead to the biggest short-term profit.

Ethical behaviour and corporate social responsibility can bring significant benefits to a business. For example, they may:

- ◆ Attract customers to the firm's products, which means boosting sales and profits
- ◆ Make employees want to stay with the business, reduce labour turnover and therefore increase productivity
- ◆ Attract more employees wanting to work for the business, reduce recruitment costs and enable the company to get the most talented employees
- ◆ Attract investors and keep the company's share price high, thereby protecting the business from takeover.

Knowing that the company they deal with has stated their morals and made a promise to work in an ethical and responsible manner allows investors' peace of mind that their money is being used in a way that arranges with their own moral standing. When working for a company with strong business ethics, employees are comfortable in the knowledge that they are not by their own action allowing unethical practices to continue. Customers are at ease buying products or services from a company they know to source their materials and labour in an ethical and responsible way.

For example, a coffee company which states all their raw beans are picked from sustainable plants where no deforestation has occurred, by people paid a good living wage, in an area where investments have been made to ensure that producing the coffee for a foreign market has not damaged the local way of life, will find that all these elements of their buying strategy becomes a selling point for their final product.

A company which sets out to work within its own ethical guidelines is also less at risk of being fined for poor behaviour, and less likely to find themselves in breach of one of a large number of laws concerning required behaviour.

Reputation is one of a company's most important assets, and one of the most difficult to rebuild should it be lost. Maintaining the promises it has made is crucial to maintaining that reputation.

Businesses not following any kind of ethical code or carrying out their social responsibility leads to wider consequences. Unethical behaviour may damage a firm's reputation and make it less appealing to stakeholders. This means that profits could fall as a result.

The natural world can be affected by a lack of business ethics. For example, a business which does not show care for where it disposes its waste products, or fails to take a long-term view when buying up land for development, is damaging the world in which every human being lives, and damaging the future prospects of all companies.

Ethics is important to businesses for many reasons. Businesses can increase sales or increase their reputation.

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Maliban Biscuit Manufactories elects SAP S/4HANA® to Simplify and Amplify Business



SAP SE (NYSE: SAP), today announced that Sri Lanka's award-winning biscuit manufacturer Maliban Biscuit Manufactories elected Business Suite 4 SAP HANA (SAP S/4HANA), the next generation business suite from SAP, to improve productivity and streamline business operations in real time. With this deployment, Maliban will become Sri Lanka's first company to implement SAP S/4HANA.

Maliban, a 60 year old manufacturer of a range of crackers, cookies and wafers, is sold in over 100,000 stores across Sri Lanka. It has a global presence in over 35 countries and intends to expand its business locally and globally by advancing its primary business processes using world-class technology solutions.

To achieve this milestone, Maliban plans to deploy SAP S/4HANA and also benefit from the SAP Fiori® user experience (UX) to help streamline input operations and

SAP Lumira® to experience the best of business analytics and data visualization tools for better business decision making.

Mrs. Kumudika Fernando, Managing Director, Maliban said, "Maliban's business has reached a critical point where our business needs have grown exponentially. The decision to select SAP and their S/4HANA platform wasn't a difficult one as it will create a platform for the organization to operate in a dynamic manner with faster information processing for appropriate decision making. It will integrate our business processes seamlessly, enabling us to carry out day-to-day tasks dynamically, improve productivity and manage operations in real time."

With analytical information becoming a decisive factor for modern businesses, SAP S/4HANA will enable Maliban to equip itself with more in-depth and dynamic analyses of the market and consumer demand trends. This will prepare the organization to face the challenges of the future more effectively and faster.

Michael Sathasivam, Country Business Head for SAP in Sri Lanka said, "I would like to congratulate Maliban Biscuit Manufactories on becoming Sri Lanka's first SAP S/4HANA customer. Deploying SAP's latest and state of the art product offering emphasizes their focus on technology as an enabler for their future. In such a context, SAP S/4HANA is targeted to enhance Maliban's business efficiency as it is scalable, smart and simple to run in business."

SAP S/4HANA is designed to drive business innovation with simplicity by connecting people, devices and business networks in real time to support the development of new business models. It brings unprecedented innovations and simplifications to customers, combined with more than 40 years of experience across industries, in a completely reimagined business suite only possible with SAP HANA. SAP S/4HANA will offer cloud, on-premise and hybrid deployment options to provide maximum choice to customers.

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Importance of Teamwork at Work

Teamwork in the workplace offers the company and staff the ability to become more familiar with each other and learn how to work together. There are several ways in which teamwork is important and vital to the success of the company and to the development of each employee. Understanding those important elements will assist in developing company policies geared toward encouraging team growth in the workplace.

Delegation

A team that works well together understands the strengths and weaknesses of each team member. One of the benefits of strong teamwork in the workplace is that team leaders and members become proficient at dividing up tasks so they are done by the most qualified people. Without strong teamwork, it can be difficult for managers and executives to determine which staff members can best accomplish job tasks.

Efficiency

Work groups and teams develop systems that allow them to complete tasks efficiently and quickly. When a task is handed to a well-trained and efficient team, the team's work pace assures that the task will be completed quickly and accurately. This allows the company to take on more work and generate more revenue without having to add more staff. This becomes helpful when efficient teams from different departments work together. Each team is well aware of its own abilities and the groups can work together effectively as opposed to disjointed groups of employees who may not be familiar with how to work together.

Ideas

Teams in the workplace often meet to discuss how to solve company issues. When a team works well together, it allows staff members to feel more comfortable in offering suggestions. Team members become accustomed to processing brainstorming information and the company benefits from the variety of suggestions that come from effective teams.

Support

There are challenges each day in any workplace, and a strong team environment can act as a support mechanism for staff members. Work group members can help each other improve their performance and work together toward improving their professional development. Team members also come to rely on each other and trust each other. These bonds can be important when the team faces a particularly difficult challenge or if the group is forced to deal with the loss of a team member while still trying to maintain productivity.



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EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS/SEMINARS/EXHIBITIONS

International Exhibitions

- ◆ **IFTF—International Floriculture & Horticulture Trade Fair.** 4 - 6 November 2015, Netherlands
- ◆ **The 12th Japan International Seafood & Technology Expo,** Tokyo - Japan on 19 - 21 August 2015
- ◆ **Asia Latex Conference (ALC) 2015.** Crown Plaza, Kochi, India - September 10-11, 2015
- ◆ **ASIA FRUIT LOGISTICA,** International Trade Fair, Hong Kong - September 2-4, 2015

Local Exhibitions

- ◆ **PEMEX 2015 - MEDICAL EXHIBITION** is being organized from 24th - 31st August at Faculty of Medicine University Peradeniya
- ◆ **“Construct Exhibition 2015”** is being organized from 28,29,30th August 2015 at The Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo.
- ◆ **“Techno Exhibition”** 9-11 October 2015 The Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo

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